

DETAILED ACTION

1. 1-13, 17-29 and 33-44 are pending.
2. Amendment filed 06/29/2009 has been received and considered.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 03/18/2009 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

4. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Kevin Zilka (Reg. No. 41,429) on 09/28/2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 33 (Currently Amended) A system including a tangible computer readable medium, comprising:

one or more processors executing:

- a) logic for executing scanning control logic utilizing a central processing unit;
- b) logic for identifying a request related to data at the central processing unit;
- c) logic for indicating a location of the data to a scanning co-processor coupled to the central processing unit so that the data is scanned by the scanning co-processor under the control of the scanning control logic for offloading scanning operations from the central processing unit;
- d) logic for waiting for results from the scanning co-processor;
- e) logic for executing additional logic utilizing the central processing unit while waiting for the results from the scanning co-processor; and
- f) logic for initiating an event based on the results from the scanning co-processor; wherein the scanning co-processor is under the control of the central processing unit via the execution of the scanning control logic by the central processing unit;

wherein the system is operable such that it is determined whether the data meets a predetermined criteria, where the criteria is based on a type of a file associated with the data;

wherein the system is operable such that the data is sent to the scanning co-processor if it is determined that the data meets the predetermined criteria;

wherein the system is operable such that additional data to be scanned by the scanning co-processor is queued while waiting for the results from the scanning co-processor;

wherein the scanning co-processor is capable of performing an additional scan on the additional data while scanning the data;

wherein the location of the data indicated to the scanning co-processor includes a memory location of the data stored in memory, where the memory is separate from and coupled to the scanning co-processor and the central processing unit via a bus that employs direct memory access.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 1-13, 17-29 and 33-44 are allowed.
6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Applicant's arguments (see pages 15-21) filed 06/29/2009 are persuasive. Specifically, the prior art fails to explicitly disclose "indicating the data to a scanning co-processor coupled to the central processing unit so that the data is scanned by the scanning co-processor under the control of the scanning control logic"; "executing additional logic utilizing the central processing unit while waiting for the results from the scanning co-processor"; "wherein the scanning co-processor is under the control of the central processing unit via the execution of the scanning control logic by the central processing unit"; "wherein the data is sent to the scanning co-processor if it is determined that the data meets the predetermined criteria"; "wherein additional data to be scanned by the scanning co-processor is queued while waiting for the results from the scanning co-processor" (see this or similar, but not necessarily identical language in the independent claims) when in combination with the remaining claimed limitations. The prior art generally teaches offloading virus scanning to a different computer (i.e. processor) based on different criteria, but fails to teach the above identified limitations when in combination with the remaining claimed limitations.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Butt, Kouznetsov and Muhlestein teach methods of virus scanning.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MICHAEL PYZOCHA whose telephone number is (571)272-3875. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 7:00am - 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on (571) 272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Michael Pyzocha/
Examiner, Art Unit 2437